CLAIMS

1. Data requesting device (2) through at least one first
5   communication network (5) from at least one data server (10), comprising:
- sending means (22) for sending requests (REQU) of
determined data to the server (10) via at least one second communication
network (6),
- receiving means (23) for receiving streamed data (DATA) from
10   said server (10) via said first communication network (5) and for providing
said data to processing means (24) for them to be exploited,
- and control means (30) for producing pause control signals
(XOFF), intended for pausing data streaming from said server (10), and for
triggering the sending of said pause control signals (XOFF) to said server
15   (10) via said second network (6) through said sending means (22),

characterized in that said data requesting device (2) comprises
maintenance means (31) for generating normal state signals (NORMAL,
KEEPALIVE), intended to said server (10) for testifying normal operation at
20   said data requesting device (2), and for triggering periodic transmission of
said normal state signals (NORMAL, KEEPALIVE) to said server (10) via
said second network (6) through said sending means (22).

2. Data requesting device (2) according to claim 1, characterized
25   in that said control means (30) are intended to produce also resume control
signals (XON), intended for resuming data streaming from said server (10)
after pausing, and said sending means (22) are intended to transmit to said
server (10) via said second network (6) said resume control signals (XON).

30   3. Data requesting device (2) according to any of claims 1 or 2,
characterized in that said data requesting device (2) comprises a user
interface (35), enabling a user to trigger said control means (30) and said

sending means (22), so as to cause said control signals (XOFF, XON) to be provided to said server (10) via said second network (6).

4. Data requesting device (2) according to any of the preceding
5   claims, characterized in that said received data (DATA) being stored in a central memory (26) before being exploited, said data requesting device (2) comprises regulation means (32), intended to trigger said control means (30) to produce a pause control signal (XOFF) when said data in said central memory (26) exceed a predetermined high threshold level (HFIFO) of said
10 central memory (26).

5. Data requesting device (2) according to claim 4, characterized in that said regulation means (32) are intended to trigger said control means (30) to produce a resume control signal (XON) when said streaming has
15 been paused by said regulation means (32) and said data in said central memory (26) decrease down to a predetermined low threshold level (LFIFO) of said central memory (26).

6. Data requesting device (2) according to any of claims 4 or 5,
20 characterized in that at least one of said threshold levels (HFIFO, LFIFO) of said central memory (26) depends on a round-trip time (RTT) between said data requesting device (2) and said server (10).

7. Data requesting device (2) according to any of the preceding
25 claims, characterized in that:
        - said receiving means (23) are intended to receive special warning messages (WARN) from said server (10) via said first network (5) when said server (10) has not received said normal state signals (NORMAL, KEEPALIVE) in due time,
30   - and said maintenance means are intended to trigger the sending of a normal state signal (NORMAL, KEEPALIVE) to said server (10)

·via said second network (6) as soon as said special warning message (WARN) is received.

8. Decoder, characterized in that it comprises a data requesting
5   device (2) according to any of claims 1 to 7.

9. Data requesting process through at least one first communication network (5) from at least one data server (10), comprising the following steps:

10   - sending requests (REQU) of determined data to the server (10) via at least one second communication network (6),

    - receiving streamed data (DATA) from said server (10) via said first communication network (5) for them to be exploited,

    - and producing and sending to said server (10) via said second
15 network (6), pause control signals (XOFF), intended for pausing data streaming from said server (10),

characterized in that said data requesting process comprises generating and periodically transmitting to said server (10) via said second
20 network (6), normal state signals (NORMAL, KEEPALIVE), intended to said server (10) for testifying normal operation at said data requesting device (2).

10. Data transmitting device (1) via at least one first
25 communication network (5) comprising:

    - receiving means (11) for receiving requests (REQU) of determined data from at least one data requesting device (2) via at least one second communication network (6),

    - and streaming means (13) for triggering streaming of said data
30 (DATA) to said data requesting device (2) via said first network (5),

said receiving means (11) being intended to receive from said data requesting device (2) pause control messages (XOFF), and said streaming

means (13) being intended to pause said data streaming when said pause control messages (XOFF) are received,

        ·characterized in that:

5   - said receiving means (11) are intended to receive periodically normal state signals (NORMAL, KEEPALIVE) from said data requesting device (2),

        - and said data requesting device (2) comprises alarm means (15) intended to trigger an alarm state when said normal state signals

10 (NORMAL, KEEPALIVE) are not received in due time,

        said data transmitting device (1) being preferably provided for a data requesting device (2) according to any of claims 1 to 7.

15   11. Data transmitting device (1) according to claim 10, characterized in that said alarm means (15) are intended to trigger said alarm state when any of said normal state signals (NORMAL, KEEPALIVE) is not received after a safety duration following an expected periodic time for receiving said normal state signal, said safety duration depending on a

20 round-trip time (RTT) between said data requesting device (2) and said data transmitting device (1).

        12. Data transmitting device (1) according to any of claims 10 or 11, characterized in that:

25   - said alarm means (15) are intended to produce a warning message (WARN) when any of said normal state signals (NORMAL, KEEPALIVE) is not received in due time,

        - said data transmitting device (1) comprises transfer means (14) intended to send said warning message (WARN) to said data requesting

30 device (2) via said first network (5),

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- and said alarm means (15) are intended to trigger said alarm state only when a complementary duration has elapsed after the sending of said warning message (WARN).

5   13. Data transmitting device (1) according to any of claims 9 to 12, characterized in that said receiving means (11) are intended to receive resume control messages (XON) from said data requesting device (2), and said streaming means (13) are intended to resume said data streaming when said streaming has been paused and one of said resume control messages
10   (XON) is received.

          14. Data transmitting process via at least one first communication network (5) comprising the following steps:
15   - receiving requests (REQU) of determined data from at least one data requesting device (2) via at least one second communication network (6),
                 - streaming said data (DATA) to said data requesting device (2) via said first network (5),
20   - and receiving from said data requesting device (2) pause control messages (XOFF), and pausing said data streaming when said pause control messages (XOFF) are received,

          characterized in that it comprises also the following steps:
25   - receiving periodically normal state signals (NORMAL, KEEPALIVE) from said data requesting device (2),
                 - and triggering an alarm state when said normal state signals (NORMAL, KEEPALIVE) are not received in due time,

30   said data transmitting process being preferably intended to be executed by a data transmitting device (1) compliant with any of claims 10 to 13.

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15. Computer program product, characterized in that it comprises program code instructions for executing the steps of one of the processes of claims 9 and 14 when said program is executed on a computer.

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